NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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State Troopers Urge Spring Break Safety, Cite Importance of Seat Belts, Sobriety

MONTGOMERY — As mid-March marks the arrival of the spring break season for students, Alabama state troopers are preparing for the holiday traffic, with plans to focus enforcement activity on heavily traveled beach and vacation routes.

DPS Director Col. J. Christopher Murphy said, "Spring break is a harbinger of the warm-weather travel season and an excellent time to remind all motorists, especially young drivers on holiday, to drive with extreme care and caution. Your safety and that of your passengers depend on it."

Murphy cited a few tried-and-true safety rules to help ensure travel safety during the spring break period:

- Buckle up on each and every trip, whether it's a trip to the beach, a friend's house or a neighborhood store;
- Obey speed limits and all other traffic laws;
- Avoid drinking and driving at all costs; at best the consequences can be costly, and at worst, deadly;
- Keep focused on the roadway, other motorists, and your surroundings; don't be distracted from the driving task.

Murphy reminded students who plan to take the road skills driver license test during spring break that they can avoid waits by scheduling an appointment. Appointments for the road skills test are available in Montgomery, Huntsville, Birmingham, Tuscaloosa and Mobile, and may be scheduled up to two weeks in advance.

Appointments may be scheduled through the Department of Public Safety's Web site, http://dps.alabama.gov, or by phone. Testing for walk-ins also is available at those offices and all other DL examining offices statewide. Locations, schedules, and phone numbers are available on DPS's Web site.

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